

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
(Case No. 142/003/PCT; 03-766)

PATENT

In re Application of: Light et al.)
Serial No.: 09/582,492) Before the Examiner: J. Switzer
Filed: March 6, 2002) Group Art Unit: 1634
For: Detection of Human Papilloma) Confirmation No. 8768
Virus in Papanicolaou (Pap) Smears)

Mail Stop Express Abandonment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

EXPRESS ABANDONMENT

Applicants request that the above-identified application be expressly abandoned as of the filing date of this paper. The above-identified application is being expressly abandoned solely as a matter of convenience in response to a proposal by the Office to add the pending reagent claims (*i.e.*, claims 7, 23, and 24) of the instant application to the pending method claims (*i.e.*, claims 8, 10-12, 16, and 23-25) of related U.S. Application No. 10/646,633 (the '633 application) by Examiner's Amendment, and then issue a Notice of Allowance for both the added reagent claims and currently pending method claims. It is Applicants' understanding that the Office is prohibited from issuing an Examiner's Amendment adding the reagent claims of the instant application to the '633 application until the instant application has been abandoned. It is also Applicants' understanding that the Examiner's Amendment will indicate that both the reagent and method claims are entitled to the benefit of the filing date of the instant application.

Respectfully submitted,
McDonnell Boehnen Hulbert & Berghoff LLP

Dated: December 11, 2008 By: /Donald L. Zuhn, Jr./
Donald L. Zuhn, Jr., Ph.D.
Reg. No. 48,710